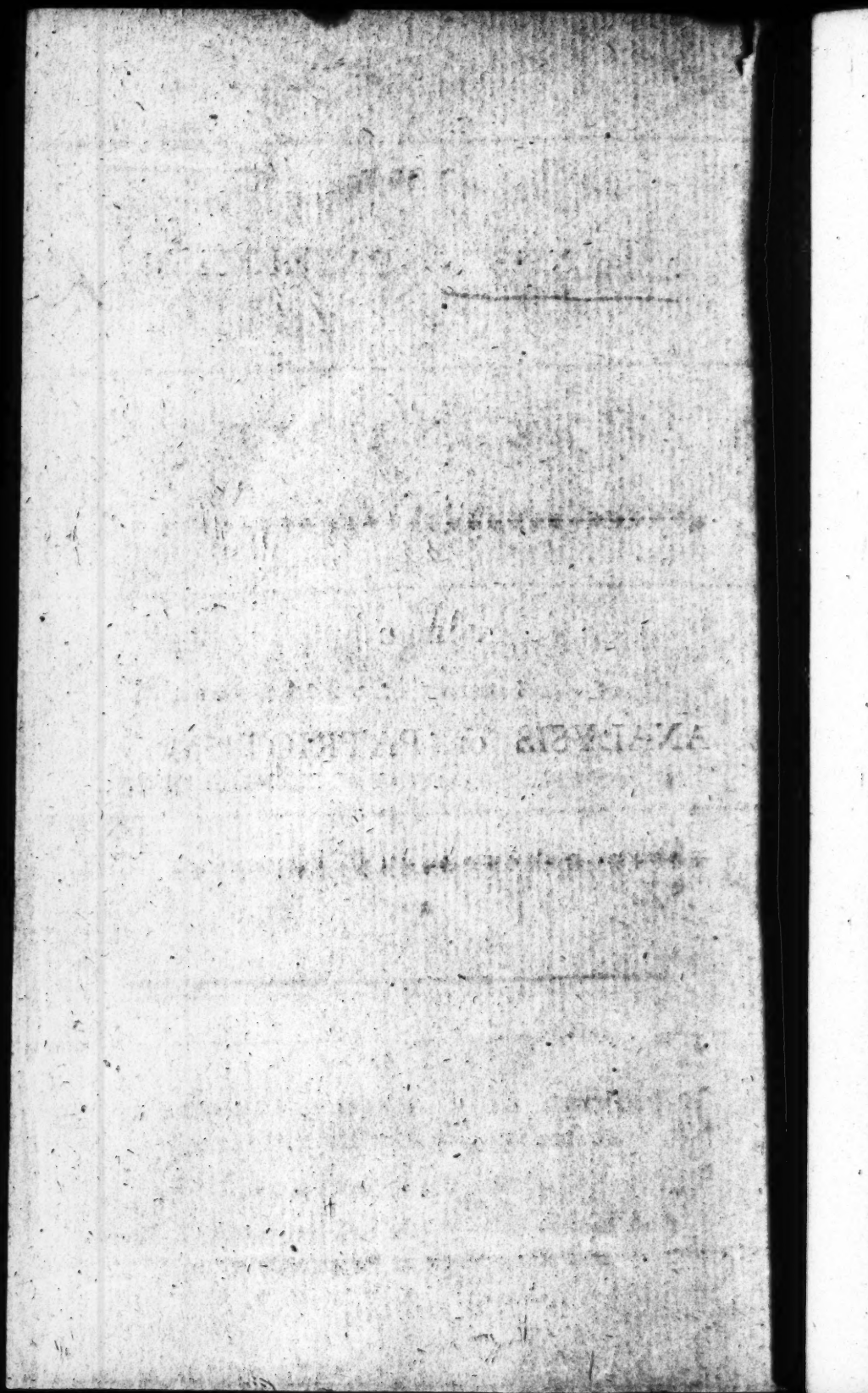


ANALYSIS OF PATRIOTISM.

T H E

ANALYSIS OF PATRIOTISM.



Patriot

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THE
ANALYSIS OF PATRIOTISM;

K

OR,

AN INQUIRY

WHETHER

OPPOSITION TO GOVERNMENT,

IN THE PRESENT STATE OF AFFAIRS,

IS CONSISTENT WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF

A PATRIOT.

L O N D O N.

PRINTED BY G. KEEBLE, QUAKER'S
BUILDINGS, WEST SMITHFIELD,

FOR THE AUTHOR,

And sold by Mr. White in Fleet Street, J. Bew
and Alex. Hogg in Paternoster-Row.

THE

ANALYSIS OF PATRIOTISM;

OF

AN INQUIRY

INTO THE

WEALTH

OF THE PATRIOT

IN THE PRESENT STATE OF AFFAIRS

IS CONSISTENT WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF

LIBERTY AND JUSTICE

A PATRIOT.

BY

LONDON.

PRINTED BY G. KEEBLE, QUAKERS'

BUILDINGS, WEST SMITHFIELD.

FOR THE AUTHOR,

And sold by Mr. W. Smith in Fleet Street, &c.

and also by Mr. W. Smith in Fenchurch Lane.

TO THAT WORTHY AND RESPECTABLE
BODY OF PEOPLE,

THE CITIZENS OF LONDON,

THIS WORK

IS HUMBLY INSCRIBED,

BY THEIR OBEDIENT

SERVANT,

THE AUTHOR.

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THE AUTHOR.

DEDICATION

Follow-Subjects of the Metropolis:

DEDICATION:

submitted to them my Thoughts,
~~hoping from their patronage the~~
Work with their Approbation, to

AS it is the Custom of every
Nation to view as a lauda-
ble Example, the Conduct of those
who claim Precedence among
them, by being principally con-
cerned in the Trade, and conse-
quently, by possessing more exten-
sive Knowledge of the Manners, of
their Country, we may reasonably
account for the invariable Maxim
observed among all People, of care-
fully trading in the political
Track laid out for them by their
Fellow-

viii DEDICATION.

Fellow-subjects of the Metropolis:
For ~~this~~ Reason I have humbly
submitted to them my Thoughts,
hoping, ~~from their honouring~~ the
Work with their Approbation, to
engage the Attention of the Inha-
bitants throughout every Part of
the Kingdom; by which Means
the good End of uniting the Minds
of the People, at this critical Sea-
son, may be, in a greater Degree,
promoted. And in Order to con-
vince those who may, at first
Thoughts, differ from me on the
meaning of the Term Patriotism,
I would beg Leave to take Notice,
that as by it can only be under-
stood, a following those Paths
which

DEDICATION. H

which lead to the good of Society, so, it is impossible to affix it to one uniform System of Conduct: For as in the great Business of national Government, temporary Circumstances change, the Nature of Patriotism varies in equal Degree. If the Duties of a Patriot call for Opposition: to the Measures of Government at one Time, an Alteration in their Plan demands his hearty Concurrence, and becomes as much patriotic Duty. But there are many People in the World who look on public Spirit to consist only in resisting Ministry, and, whatever Measures they pursue, think themselves justified in using

X DEDICATION.

all the Means in their Power to render them abortive. To rectify such erroneous Conduct, by shewing that this Virtue, when misguided, is productive of Mischief, which more than counterbalances the Benefits it diffuses in its highest State of Perfection, is the Business of this Treatise: And this Intent can only be answered by giving the Multitude an Opportunity of perceiving, that those People of whose Principles they have the best Opinion, change their Plan of Opposition, and unanimously assist the Operations of Government, when the Distress of the State requires their Aid.

These

DEDICATION. xi

These great Examples work wonderfully on the popular Ideas, and tend to remove Prejudices often unjustly raised.

Such real Instances of Patriotism shine with great Lustre, and shew obvious Signs of a benevolent Heart; and as the present Situation of Affairs cries aloud for Assistance, it is ardently to be wished, that real Patriots would lay aside party Malice, and conjointly strive to extricate their Country from her Difficulties. That such a generous Spirit may actuate every ENGLISHMAN is my most hearty Wish, and the chief Inducement

xii DEDICATION.

for submitting this Production to
the Inspection of a discerning Pub-
lic.

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But it cannot be amiss to
explain the Nature of this Vir-
tue. It is a Love of our Country
and of every Man, consider-
ing his own Feelings, whether the Plan-
tation or the Nation. It is a
Patriotism, &c. Similar to that beautiful Struc-
ture. Patriotism cannot be said

In an Age when the Amor
Patriæ reigns in the Minds
of most People, and, according
to their own Account, influences
every Action of their Lives, it
must be deemed impertinent to
ask, "What is Patriotism?" The
Question would be considered a
Matter so generally well known,
as not to deserve a serious An-

14 THE ANALYSIS

swer: But it cannot be amiss to explain the Nature of this Virtue in its real State; and from thence let every Man consult his own Feelings, whether the Phantom of his Imagination bears any Similitude to that beauteous Structure. Patriotism cannot be said to be peculiar to any Clime or People in the Universe; it is of so pure a Nature, that whatever Soil it chooses for its Existence, it finds Opposition from the Passions of the Mind; but of all the Obstacles in the Road to Perfection, Avarice and Envy are its greatest and most dangerous Enemies; these are the Demons which

OF PATRIOTISM. 45

nip it in the Bud, and prevent its acquiring Strength to force itself through the thorny Way: Those Men only are equal to its good Qualities who have the least Frailty in their Disposition, and who with their Country's Weal without looking to those Emoluments which commonly succeed their Labour; who can view the Business of the State flourish, in the Hands of any Administration with the same Content, as if they themselves had a Share in its Management.

But, as we are commonly Strangers to this State of Mind, we will

call

call to our Recollection that Era when Patriotism shone with the greatest Lustre, and contrast it with the false Spirit which rages at this Period.

Here I believe it will be allowed, that no People recorded in History equalled the ROMANS during the Flourishing of their Empire. These are the Patriots whom Englishmen make the Butt of Emulation, though very few of them are possessed of those Virtues which are indispensibly necessary in the slightest Progress thereto. In those Days when a Man embarked on the political Ocean, his principal Concern

Concre was to benefit his Coun-
 try; a Resolution fixed and de-
 termined possessed his Soul, to
 which he sacrificed every other
 Consideration; neither Interest or
 Pleasure were to be regarded, or
 any intervening Hardship judged
 of Consequence to stop his Career
 until he had effected the desired
 Point he would have thought it
 inglorious to recede, and even then
 contented himself with obtaining
 public Applause, and a Conscien-
 sious of having strove to deserve it.
 He did not desire, on the Strength
 of his Services, to enrich himself
 at his Country's Expence, nor did
 he envy them in more exalted De-
 partments;

partments: Besides his Zeal for the common Cause, Honour was his chief Care, and that was only to be acquired by disinterested Exploits in her Service; exclusive of this Consideration, he could see with equal Pleasure the great Achievements of others, and be happy to find his own honest Spirit become general:---If he ever opposed the Measures of Government it was when they were unjust, or the public Safety required his Dissent; but, on the other Hand, he could give his hearty Support to any salutary Scheme, though planned by his personal Enemy.---And to the Honour.

Honour of the People, it must be allowed, that so strict a Distinction was kept up between public Business and the more domestic Concerns of Life, that no private Pique could operate on the Temper of those who were connected in national Affairs, to injure the Trust reposed in them, and hence the Measures of Government were effected without those party Murmurings which have prevailed in latter Ages, and have hurt the Minds of the common People, by raising unjust Suspensions against their Rulers. So nice were the Principles of the Times, that as no popular Obstacles were
 odd thrown

thrown in their Way, every Minister would pledge himself for the Success of his Conduct; and, on its Failure, relinquish those Employments which would no longer do him Credit; But as Unanimity was firmly implanted in their Councils, there were seldom Occasions for those Kind of Sacrifices. When a Man meant faithfully to serve his Country, he was sure to find himself, in the End, crowned with the Laurel of Applause, and had the Pleasure of beholding, in the Countenance of the Multitude, the most visible Signs of heartfelt Satisfaction; as there were no People so callous to wounds the

the Feelings of Honour as to be inattentive to the Heroes who had signalized themselves by glorious Actions; especially on important Occasions, where the Service of the State was enthusiastically attempted through Danagers seemingly invincible; and where there was no Possibility of the Mind being stimulated by lucrative Expectations. These are the only indisputable Instances of Patriotism which cannot fail of gaining the Esteem of good Citizens, unaccompanied with the Suspicions ever awaiting such as are engaged in public Business, but, at the same Time, look chiefly to their own Interests.

Interests. So great was the Rage for acquiring popular Fame, that we find many Men, whose Situation put them far beyond pecuniary Temptation, quit a retired Life, and, induced by the Exigency of the State, brave those Dangers which, in latter Days, would only have been thought fit for Men of desperate Fortunes; but Custom justified their Conduct, and, by being enrolled in the Records of Honour, they were considered as amply compensated for any Perils they might have encountered. Such

Such were the fashionable In-
 citements to the Love of Glory
 which reigned universally, and
 raised to the most exalted Pitch
 of Grandeur that celebrated Em-
 pire, defending it against its nu-
 merous Enemies, but which
 ceasing to unite them, brought on
 that disgraceful Change in their
 Manners, as scarcely left any
 Traces of their former Greatness.

This, then, we will consider as
 the Pinnacle of Patriotism, and
 to this Standard bring, by Way
 of Contrast, the boasted public
 Spirit of the present Times.

- In a Country like this, whose Government is partly democratic, there is a copious Field for Patriotism, as every Man is, in a greater or less Degree, possessed of legislative Power, he has frequent Opportunities of contributing to the good of Society: But this, instead of producing general Benefit, serves only to shew the Degeneracy of BRITONS. Those who are entrusted with the Administration of Government are necessarily possessed of the Disposal of the valuable Employments appertaining thereto: The magnetic Powers of this Article attract the Attention of all Factions and Parties.

OF PATRIOTISM. 25

ties in the Kingdom; the Corrupt
who side with the Ministry, or
those who form Opposition, are
are equally allured by its Charms,
and only travel different Roads
to the same Place of Destination.
We may tire ourselves with re-
trospective Researches for a Period
where Ministry had no Opponents,
and at last find we were making
a needless Inquiry. The Taste for
Luxury and Dissipation, which
prompts Men beyond moderate
Bounds, is a sufficient Inducement
to envy those Men who are placed
in lucrative Posts, and consequently
to endeavour to counteract their
Measures.

Measures, however wisely they are concerted.

Here may be found the grand Basis of English Patriotism, from which the sensible Part of Mankind can never expect a towering Fabrie; for when a Man opposes Government from Envy, Disappointment, or a Desire of promoting his own Interest, his Designs prove abortive, and among honest Men should rank him as a Character, who, to serve his own venial Purpose, would disturb the Peace of the Community without being able to do it any essential Service. And I think I may, with Propriety,

Propriety, appeal to dispassionate People, who are guided in the political Path by a hearty Zeal, whether the Principles on which too many build their Opposition to Ministry do not answer this Description. It would almost make a Man grow sick of public Spirit, to see the Conduct of those who forsake the common Track of Moderation to shine in the Field of Patriotism. The first Step they take to prove their Unfitness is, by running down, with equal Rancour, oppressive or meritorious Conduct: This Plan they pursue with unabating Violence, until they are silenced by a Dour-
 ceur,

court, or perceive, by the Scorn with which they are treated, that they are judged of no Consequence. The Former of these Cases is judged the most powerful in its Effects; it produces an immediate Revolution of Sentiment; the same Man who was but just before the most zealous Advocate of Liberty, and had employed much of his Time in bitter Railings against imaginary Encroachments, could now leave that venerable Cause to defend itself, and concur with those whom he had ever accused of being its Enemies. So potent is Gold, that the most violent Spirit of Faction must

must become a Convert to its persuasive Arts: To this Cause we must attribute the quick Transition from a modern Patriot to a Ministerialist; and it appears less likely to be accounted for, if we consider the slight Materials which compose the Substance of this Virtue. Every Man who conceives himself entitled to national Honours, while no other Person can see the Justice of his Claim, is, by the Rage of Disappointment, created a Foe to Government; and so eager are the Members of the Fraternity to gather Strength, that he is at once admitted to their Society, appearing to possess

the

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the necessary Qualifications for a Son of Faction. This worthy Body whose Sufferings and consequent Malice make them of one Mind; thus united, no Pains are omitted to sow the Seeds of Sedition among the lower Orders of the People; a Task by no Means difficult, as they generally inherit so strong an Objection to good orderly Government, by which alone their licentious Spirit is restrained, that they with Pleasure hearken to any Scheme which promises to subvert the hateful Check to their unlawful Enjoyments. However dispersed these faithful Allies may be, they are

are readily collected on any Occasion, which, in the Opinion of their Leaders, requires a Tumult; but of all Opportunities, public Elections afford the fairest Field for Service: Here this deluded Part of the World are made instrumental in satiating the Ambition of a few, who, by their Means, climb to Preferment, but no longer retain Remembrance of their Benefactors; leaving them to content themselves with the shameful Recollection of having been made the Dupes of designing Men, without receiving for their Pains any solid Advantages.

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Most

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Most People will confess that this is a just Delineation of modern Patriotism, and, at first Sight, form an Opinion of its Unworthiness to be compared with that of the Ancients. I shall, therefore, quit the Subject, and consider, as I proposed, the following Question:

WHETHER OPPOSITION TO GOVERNMENT, IN THE PRESENT STATE OF AFFAIRS, IS CONSISTENT WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF A PATRIOT.

THO treat this Matter candidly, it will be necessary to revert to that Period in which the present Troubles began to assume a form for-

formidable Appearance; when the Colonies, grown to Years of Maturity, thought themselves capable of guiding the political Machine, independent of any Assistance from the Mother Country. To trace farther back would be needless, as I believe it is the general Opinion, that the Spirit of Rebellion has long had Existence among them; still encreasing with their growing Strength, and only remaining Secret until the Times became Ripe for its public Appearance.

In this Situation of Mind were they at the Receival of the Tea-

duty, which was judged too great an Opportunity to be let slip of trying their Strength, and endeavouring to drain out all Remainder of Parliamentary Authority: No Ideas of Gratitude for the Support they had long received, or the Blood and Treasure which had been spent in their Service, by which they had been defended against their powerful Foes, could bind them to make a proper Return: On the contrary, at the very Time of their existing as a State, by BRITISH Assistance, they were, most probably, revolving in their Minds the Prospect of speedy Independence,

If

If we view the Contest in this, the only true Light, we must reprobate the black Ingratitude of those, who could wickedly fly in the Face of their bountiful Friends, and consequently approve the heroic Spirit of Government in resolving to check the Insurrection, though at the Risque of losing the Benefits of their Commerce. Conformable to this Doctrine we should strengthen, as much as possible, the Hands of Administration to overcome surrounding Difficulties; and, by all Appearances of Uniformity of Sentiment, shew our Enemies they are opposing an united People. But how absurdly

absurdly different is the public Conduct! Every Art has been put in Practice to create fresh Impediments, and to increase those Obstacles naturally to be expected in War. With Shame it must be confessed, that the Obstinacy of our Opponents, in rejecting pacific Offers, is chiefly occasioned by the Encouragement they have met with from the Disaffected at Home.

How despicably must Posterity consider those Men, who amidst their boasted Professions of Loyalty and zealous Attachment to the Constitution, give their Assistance

to

to Enemies who are openly aiming at a Dismemberment of the Empire? The most animated Expressions of Respect to the Sovereign or esteem for the common Cause, must only be viewed as slight Coverings for Designs too base to bear the Light. Nor are these the only Feelings occasioned by this public Vice; our Form of Government, which has ever been acknowledged the mildest and most complete of all Nations in the World, becomes subject to Reflection for suffering, unpunished, such daring Misconduct. They cannot see the Consistency of pretending to be well affected to the illustrious

illustrious Family on the Throne, and at the same Time with to countenance its most bitter Enemies ; if there were no other Effects accruing from their factious Malice but its proving Dissentions among the People from a Contrariety of Opinions, the Inconvenience would be worthy Consideration ; but when we give Attention to the Mischiefs with which their Conduct is pregnant, all Ranks of People should conjoin their Efforts to destroy the Seeds of Discord, and establish a Maxim, that the greatest Liberty to be contended for, is the Enjoyment of those Privileges

Privileges which are only to be found under a well regulated Government ; in no Respect, resembling that licentious Liberty so much idolized by the common People, and solely to be considered as the abuse of that Freedom for which our Country is the Envy of the World.

If that we were to receive the common vulgar Opinion of the Blessing most to be valued, we should pride ourselves on the Enjoyment of customary Right, on all Occasions where ministerial Conduct suffered Dislike, to shew our Dissent by Riot and Confusion,

which

which, of late Years, have become fashionable, from the People believing the Measures of Government cruel and unjust. Though I cannot coincide with this Notion, yet, for Argument Sake, I will allow their Impolicy; but if while this Plan was pursued, Opposition became justifiable, for what Reason should we continue to oppose, when Ministry are using all practicable Means to effect, ^{no} Reconciliation; when we see the most candid Proposals to the deluded Insurgents rejected with Contempt, and only tending to increase their Demands. Surely the Spirit of BRITONS, which were formerly

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formerly ready to resent every Insult to their Country, should take Fire at the Recollection of her accumulated Injuries, and be unanimous in assisting to bring them to acknowledge constitutional Obedience, and preventing for the future any similar Disturbances. But of even from Principle we cannot approve of the Conduct of Government, in endeavouring originally to impose Taxation, it behoves us, in the present critical Circumstances, to wave that Consideration, and, from the great Necessities of the Times, use our Efforts to restore Peace; but the principal

principal Reason which demands an Accommodation, is the plain Prospect before our Eyes, of the great Benefits accruing to our national Enemies from the present War. ENGLAND was never so much scorned by her Neighbours as at this Time; nor will she be able, by the most circumspect Behaviour, to ward off an offensive Blow, if the Causes of her Distress continue much longer. This Reflection should overcome every Punctilio of private Opinion, when it is well known, that should foreign Enemies ever treacherously take Advantage of our defenceless State, and succeed in their Attempts

tempts against us, the most virulent Derider of our Constitution would feel the Miseries attending a Change of Government, and with for possessing former Privileges, then beyond his Reach.

But as Custom, by which most People are too much biassed, has taught us to consider Patriotism and Opposition to Ministry as synonymous; and as this Opposition is generally conducted in a noisy turbulent Manner, it may be deemed by some a strange Explanation of the Term, when I say, it never appears in so amiable a Dress, as when it contributes to the Peace
and

and Tranquillity of a Nation, without which it will never attain an Honourable Reputation abroad; as no People will conceive an Opinion of the internal Strength of a Kingdom whose Subjects are divided by factious Bickerings: Of this Truth there never was a more lamentable Instance than the present *Æra* affords; when foreign Nations, taking Advantage of our Animosities, are recruiting their impoverished State at our Expence; and unless prevented by our timely return to Wisdom, will probably turn against us the Power of which they have deprived us.

By

By what I have already said, my Sentiments of genuine public Spirit will appear; and I think I may justly flatter myself, with the Concurrence of those who scorn to be influenced by Faction, but are guided, in their Opinions, by the right Line of Reason; and, like the ROMANS of old, can suit their Service to the Exigences of the Times: If Ministers are engaged in a System of Injustice, they hold themselves obliged to oppose; but when, on the Contrary, they consult national Interest; to support their Measures is a Duty equally binding. This, then, I humbly consider to be our present Situation; and that

that as the Country labours under unprecedented Afflictions, it requires an extraordinary Share of Power to overcome them. If Unanimity prevails in any Shape, it is in the absurd Custom of looking for political Relief to the feeble Exertions of those few in whom is reposed the executive Trust, without confidentially aiding ministerial Endeavours to the Extent of their own Abilities, which would most probably change the dismal Aspect of Affairs, to one far more pleasing. Would BARONS resolve to see their Error, and by drowning all Diversity of Opinion in a general Resolution to pursue the public Benefit, and get rid of that factious

Stigma they have long undergone, the pleasing Prospect would soon open to their View; they would speedily recover their former State of Oppulence, disappoint the Ambition of their foreign Enemies, and again be able to retaliate on them for their unfriendly Conduct, in taking Advantage of our Misfortunes: The Memories of Patriots who should take a Part in this necessary Work, must be revered by Posterity, as the Preservers of their Country from the impending Precipice of Ruin to which it has been hurried by the artful Designs of the Malicious; a Sort of People who constitute the most dangerous Enemies of a State.

THE END.

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